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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,297	03/01/2002	Norbert Liebig	HK-605	2763

7590

09/08/2003

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EXAMINER

HENCE EVANS, ANDREA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,297

Applicant(s)

LIEBIG ET AL.

Examiner

Andrea H Evans

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION-FINAL REJECTION

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Durnagel (5,566,617) and Corrado et al (6,196,128).

Referring to claim 1, Applicant disclosed that the prior art teaches an exposure device for exposing thermal printing plates by selectively burning away a surface of a printing plate comprising a plate drum for holding the printing plate; a pressure roller pressing the printing plate onto said plate drum during clamping and unclamping operations of the printing plate.

Referring to claim 1, it is inherent that the pressure roller as described in applicant's admitted prior art has a non-adhesive surface in order for the pressure roller to function properly

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such that the pressure roller can press the printing plate onto a plate drum without sticking to the printing plate.

Referring to claim 1, Durnagel teaches a pick-up roller (2) in contact with a rotating cylinder (1) said pick-up roller picking up residue adhering to the rotating cylinder (Column 2, lines 15-20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the prior art Applicant referenced by cleaning the pressure cylinder with a pick-up roller as taught by Durnagel.

Referring to claim 1, Durrangel does not teach that the pick-up roller has an adhesive surface. Durrangel does not teach that the pick-up roller has an adhesive surface picking up combustion residue adhering to said pressure roller. Corrado teaches a pick-up roller (18) that has an adhesive surface (Column 5, lines 44-47) for picking up residue adhering to said roller (12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the prior art Applicant referenced and Durrangel such that the washing roller is an adhesive pick-up roller to aid in transferring contaminant particles from a roller to the adhesive cleaning roller as taught in Corrado.

Referring to claim 6, Applicant disclosed that the prior art teaches an exposure device for exposing thermal printing plates by selectively burning away a surface of a printing plate, the exposure device having a plate drum for holding the printing plates and a pressure roller pressing the printing plate onto the plate drum during clamping and unclamping operations of the printing plate.

Referring to claim 6, it is inherent that the pressure roller as described in applicant's admitted prior art has a non-adhesive surface in order for the pressure roller to function properly

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such that the pressure roller can press the printing plate onto a plate drum without sticking to the printing plate.

Referring to claim 6, Durnagel teaches a pick-up roller (2) in contact with a rotating cylinder (1), said pick-up roller picking up residue adhering to said rotating cylinder (Column 2, lines 15-20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the prior art Applicant referenced by cleaning the pressure cylinder with a washing roller as taught by Durnagel. Referring to claim 6, Durrangel does not teach that the pick-up roller has an adhesive surface. Durrangel does not teach that the pick-up roller has an adhesive surface picking up combustion residue adhering to said pressure roller. Corrado teaches a pick-up roller (18) that has an adhesive surface (Column 5, lines 44-47) for picking up residue adhering to said roller (12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the prior art Applicant referenced and Durrangel such that the washing roller is an adhesive pick-up roller aid in transferring contaminant particles from a roller to the adhesive cleaning roller as taught in Corrado.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

4. Claims 2-5 and 7-10 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 6 remain rejected. Referring to claims 1 and 6, Durrangel teaches a method of cleaning a rotating cylinder (See Abstract). It is obvious that a pressure roller is a rotating cylinder that can be cleaned using the method as taught by Durrangel. Examiner was not stating that a blanket cylinder was a pressure roller. Instead, Examiner was showing that the set-up of the rollers as taught by Durrangel could be applied to a rotating cylinder (2), such as a pressure roller as claimed.

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Also, the washing roller (2) can be described as a pick-up roller because it is removing or “picking up” residue from the surface of a cylinder. It would be obvious to replace the washing roller with the roller (18) as taught by Corrado to provide a method of cleaning the surface of a roller such that the residue can stick to the surface of the pick-up roller.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea H Evans whose telephone number is (703) 305-8427. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday; 8:30a-5:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Andrea Hence Evans

AHE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew H. Hirshfeld". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "A".

ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800